

The catalytic exhaust gas cleaning system and a corresponding compensation layer are especially suitable for automotive applications. The novel configuration reliably protects a so-called swelling mat from strongly pulsating streams of exhaust gases, even at very high ambient temperatures. A compensation layer which includes the swelling mat and an insulating mat is disposed between an outer housing and a honeycomb of an exhaust gas purification system. An edging is produced preferably by folding the insulating mat. The folder-over edge bead is thicker than the remaining inner area of the insulating mat. Next to the side of the inner area facing away from the honeycomb, the swelling mat is arranged so that the thicker area of the edging of the insulating mat covers those edge areas of the swelling mat which are at risk of abrasion. The compensation layer preferably consists of a composite material which can be wound. The simple and effective construction is also suitable for use in devices within motor vehicle exhaust gas cleaning systems which are situated close to the engine, even when thin-walled-ceramic honeycombs are used.